

BORDER ENFORCEMENT AND TRIGGERS
"Secure Borders, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Reform Act of 2007"

Comprehensive immigration reform must include measurable border enforcement benchmarks or "triggers". The bill provides that implementation of the temporary worker program takes place only after the Secretary of Homeland Security certifies that --

1. **Staff Enhancements for Border Patrol:** Customs and Border Protection has increased to 18,000 agents from 14,500. (3,500 of 14,000 new agents mandated by the bill must be in place to set off the trigger.)
2. **Strong Border barriers:** The installation of at least 200 miles of vehicle barriers, 370 miles of fencing, and 70 ground-based radar and camera towers, along with 4 unmanned aerial vehicles along the southern border.
3. **Catch and Return:** The detention of all removable aliens apprehended crossing the southern border the resources to maintain this practice, including resources to detain up to 27,500 non-citizens per day on an annual basis.
4. **Workplace Enforcement Tools:** The Department of Homeland Security is using secure and effective identification tools to prevent unauthorized workers from obtaining jobs in the U.S. These tools include the use of tamper-proof identification documents and an effective electronic employment eligibility verification system.
5. **Processing applications of Aliens:** DHS is processing applications for earned legalization status in a timely manner, including the background and security checks.

The bill states that it is the sense of Congress that the border security and other measures can be completed within 18 months of enactment. The President must submit a report to Congress 90 days after enactment and every 90 days thereafter detailing progress made in funding, appropriating, contractual agreements reached and specific progress with regard to meeting these triggers. If not enough progress is being made, the President must include specific spending recommendations or other actions.